

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1044
By Hargrove

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Charlene Mullins for her dedication and meritorious service to education at Tennessee Technological University.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Mrs. Charlene Mullins, who has served with pride and devotion at Tennessee Technological University (TTU) for 50 years under the leadership of five different presidents; and

WHEREAS, earning her Bachelor's Degree from TTU, Mrs. Mullins furthered her education at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and through her laudable studies obtained a Master's Degree in Child Development and Family Relations; and

WHEREAS, beginning her illustrious career in education in 1953, Mrs. Mullins became an instructor at TTU with the intention of staying with the University for only ten years; fifty years later, she is serving as an Associate Professor in the University's School of Human Ecology; and

WHEREAS, at the genesis of her tenure with TTU, only one course in child development and family relations existed; Mrs. Mullins "pioneered the expansion of that field" at the school; and

WHEREAS, responsible for planning and setting up the first campus preschool center for studying early childhood development in 1954, she has witnessed the growth of the program, which is now the Child Development Lab and is umbrellaed under the College of Education; and

WHEREAS, as part of her myriad contributions to education in the State of Tennessee, Mrs. Mullins served as a Charter Member of TTU's Phi Kappa Phi honor society; helped

organize the Tennessee Association on Young Children and served as its first Vice President; was appointed by the Governor as Chair of the State Committee to write standards for Tennessee day care centers; served as Chair of a State Committee to coordinate services of three major divisions of State government: Health, Education, and Welfare; helped establish locations and train teachers for the Upper Cumberland Head Start Program; assisted in the formation of the Tennessee Council on Family Relations; served as Chair of a Committee to evaluate all programs at TTU in its initial self study; initiated the plan for the first Annual Home Economics Awards Event; planned and hosted numerous events at the Mullbro Heritage House that involved students, faculty, administrators, and professionals who were affiliated with programs of study at Tech; has served on virtually every committee in the University; and is currently serving on the Faculty Senate, Academic Council, and University Assembly; this remarkable lady has also generally taught five courses per term; and

WHEREAS, during her illustrious career, Mrs. Mullins has received notable honors, some of which include being named as Humanitarian of the Year by the Cookeville Jaycees and earning the Outstanding Teacher Award at Tennessee Tech; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Mullins has developed her own personal mission and vision as an educator; her mission has been to nurture students toward optimal development of their potential, with each student considered a unique and valuable person capable of becoming more of who he/she was created to be; her vision is to see a nation where individuals are concerned about each other and about strengthening the family structure; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to enriching lives through education, Mrs. Mullins has been an unwavering source of inspiration to thousands of students throughout her career; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to upholding family values of the highest order, Mrs. Mullins enjoyed the love and companionship she shared with her husband Harland before his passing; she is the proud mother of Ralph Mullins and wife Shirley, and Deborah and husband Gerald Holland; and

WHEREAS, she is the loving grandmother of Kennan Holbert and wife, Christy, Kurt Holbert and wife, Melanie, and Stephen Mullins; she is also the great-grandmother of Jackson Holbert; and

WHEREAS, Charlene Mullins epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; she has earned great admiration from her students, colleagues, and the school's administration alike, having been described as the "most respected faculty member in child development and family relations at TTU and throughout Tennessee"; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Charlene Mullins for her dedication to education and family values in the State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Charlene Mullins for her fifty years of dedication and meritorious service to education at Tennessee Technological University and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.